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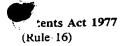
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application



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	Patents ADP number (if you know it)	7606	13400	
	If the applicant is a corporate body, give the country/state of its incorporation	United Kingdom	104001	
4.	Title of the invention	Data Processing Appa	ratus	· · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · ·
5.	Name of your agent (if you have one)	D YOUNG & CO		
	"Address for service" in the United Kingdom to which all correspondence should be sent (including the postcode)	21 NEW FETTER LANE LONDON EC4A 1DA		
	Patents ADP number (if you have one)	59006		
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8.	required in support of this request? (Answer 'Yes' if: a) any applicant named in part 3 is not an inventor, or b) there is an inventor who is not named as an applicant, or c) any named applicant is a corporate body. See note (d))	Yes	
9.	Enter the number of sheets for any of the following items you are filing with this form. Do not count copies of the same document		
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07 May 1999

Agents for the Applicants

12. Name and daytime telephone number of the person to contact in the United Kingdom

N A J Robinson

01703 634816

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Provisional Patent Application

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A System for Enhancing the Human Readable Characteristics of Hypertext Links

Ov rview:

A majority of information currently available in HTML and other mark-up languages has been designed for display on a Desktop Computer Monitor of a typical resolution of 640 by 480 or 1024 by 768 pixels. A typical small screen device only has a resolution of 120 by 90. This system has been designed to re-process the original document into a format that will be easier to interpret and understand on a small screen device.

This system has been designed for the purposes of converting information published in a hypertext mark-up language, to a format more suitable for small screen device. In a typical installation, the hypertext language would be HTML and the destination device would be PDA (Personal Digital Assistant) or Mobile phone.

The system can be used on any mark-up language and work both locally as well as across a network.

Problem:

Within a graphical environment, complicated hypertext documents can be created with images used to link to other hypertext documents. This is fine for use on a system that has a large multicolour display, but for a nongraphical viewer, such as a mobile telephone, or Personal Digital Assistant (PDA), graphic displays are a luxury, and text only methods are commonly employed.

Although many hypertext systems include support for text only displays, designers are not forced to use them. This can make the hypertext document readability very poor on non-graphical displays.

Solution:

Argo proposes a system of computer software, through which users are required to fetch hypertext documents that they wish to read. Typically this is in the form of an intermediate 'proxy server' but a stand-alone mode of ... operation can also be envisaged. The system processes the hypertext pages as they are transferred from the storage location to the reader. After identifying the links in the hypertext document, the textual part of the hypertext link (ie. the text which the user would select in order to go to the linked document) is checked to see if it is readable. This can be done in a number of ways, including (but not limited to):

- · the number of underscores is greater than the number of spaces;
- the text is less than a certain number of characters long:
- · the text is longer than a certain number of characters long;
- · the average number of characters per word is greater than a certain limit;
- the text contains words which have capital letters after lowercase letters in the same word (eg. gooSE);
- the text contains words which are not in a dictionary;

A combination of the above rules can be used to score the link in terms of readability, and if the score is above a threshold, then an alternative to the text is sought. This can also be done in several ways, including (but not limited to):

- fetching the linked hypertext document and retrieving the document's title (should one exist), or the first line of the text in the document;
- substituting the text with different text from a dictionary;
- replacing with the title of the current document (should one exist);

If the text that is to replace the link text is deemed more unreadable than the existing text, then the existing text is kept in place, and either no substitution takes place, or an alternative substitution is used.

The solution is shown in the diagram below:

